

Biology of the baitfishes Herklotsichthys purpuraceus
and Prionace ^{pinnatus} ~~baitfish~~ ~~Study~~ in Majuro, Marshall Islands

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ABSTRACT

The results of a baitfish scouting and sampling program carried out in the lagoon of Majuro Atoll, Marshall Islands, from May 1972 through April 1973 are presented in this report. The distribution and abundance, age and growth, maturity and fecundity, and stomach contents of the major baitfishes, Herklotsichthys punctatus (sardine) and Pranesus pinguis (silverside), are discussed. Adequate samples of baitfish could not be collected because of the apparent absence of suitable concentrations of the two major bait species, whose abundance fluctuated widely during the period of the observations.